



# Next Steps to Reopen Schools

Report to the Board of Education  
September 30, 2020

# 3 Schooling Approaches

In Person	Hybrid	Distance Learning
Minimum/No Spread of Virus	Moderate Spread of Virus	High Virus Spread
School open for all students five days a week	Schools open 5 days a week at less than full capacity	Primary approach to learning is through a distance learning model
Parents may choose to temporarily opt in to remote learning for their children	Two days in school at 50% capacity and three days distance learning. Students with IEP or EL who would be adversely affected by reduced schooling may attend 5 days a week.	Nearly all students work in a distance learning model with synchronous and asynchronous learning. Students with IEP or EL who would be adversely affected by reduced schooling may attend 5 days a week.

# Leading and Secondary Indicators of COVID-19 Infection Levels in Communities for Consideration of Learning Models for School Reopening in Connecticut

Leading Indicator	<b>LOW</b> Favors more In-Person Learning	<b>MODERATE</b> Favors moving to Hybrid Learning	<b>HIGH</b> Favors moving to Remote Learning
<b>Number of new cases of COVID-19</b> (7 day rolling average of new cases per 100,000 population per day)	< 10 new cases per 100,000 population	10 to < 25 new cases per 100,000 population	25+ new cases per 100,000 population

Adapted from: the Harvard Global Health Institute's publication *The Path to Zero and Schools: Achieving Pandemic Resilient Teaching and Learning Spaces*. July 2020.

Secondary Indicators	LOW Favors more In-Person Learning	MODERATE Favors moving to Hybrid Learning	HIGH Favors moving to Remote Learning
<b>Percent positivity rate</b> <i>(# of positive tests/ # of total tests, 7-day rolling avg.)</i>	<b>Direction of Change:</b> Secondary Indicators trending down to flat	<b>Direction of Change:</b> Secondary Indicators trending flat to upward	<b>Direction of Change:</b> Secondary Indicators trending upward
<b>Number of new COVID-19 hospitaliza- tions per 100,000 population</b> <i>(7-day rolling avg.)</i>	<b>Speed of Change:</b> No statistically significant changes to Secondary Indicators	<b>Speed of Change:</b> Any statistically significant changes upward to Secondary Indicators	<b>Speed of Change:</b> Consistent, statis- tically significant changes upward to Secondary Indicators
<b>COVID-like and Influenza-like Illness (CLI and ILI) Syndromic Surveillance</b>			

Adapted from: the Harvard Global Health Institute's publication *The Path to Zero and Schools: Achieving Pandemic Resilient Teaching and Learning Spaces*. July 2020.



# Hybrid to In-Person Approach

- **Begin school September 3 in Hybrid model**
  - Allows for more extensive physical distancing
  - Reduces risk as UCONN students return
  - Provides time to train and orient students to school and the technology used on remote learning days
  - Addresses social and emotional needs of children
  - Promotes relationship development between students and families
- **On or about October 1 review health metrics and decide:**
  - Continue with Hybrid approach
  - Move to Full in Person approach
- **If moving to Full in Person, switch week of October 12**



# Current Profile Grades K-8

(As of September 21, 2020)

In-person Schooling	982	72.4%
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Remote Learners	272	27.6%
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Vulnerable Populations Receiving 4 or 5 Days of Instruction	32
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# Reopening Plan – Health and Safety

## Mitigation Strategies

- Mask wearing - without incidence
- Hand hygiene - frequent and regular
- Cohorts - maintained throughout grades
- Physical distancing - following State guidance

## Facilities

- Cleaning and sanitizing - multiple times a day
- Ventilation – meets State and CDC guidance
- Movement and use of space – maintains distancing

## Health Monitoring

- Any increase in metric limited to UCONN students
- No spread within schools across state



# Reopening – Teaching and Learning

- Social and Emotional needs were focus in opening weeks and relationships formed with students and families
- Students oriented to distance learning tools, school practices and safety procedures
- Hybrid instruction requires teachers to attend to two groups of students simultaneously
- Older students manage technology with greater ease than younger students
- Support to small groups needed



# Next Steps

- Prekindergarten Remains Half Day Sessions, 5 Days a Week
- K-4 Return 5 Days a Week – October 14
  - Wednesday early release
    - Teacher collaboration and support
    - Special Services and Remote Team
    - Attend to routine school cleaning
- Grades 5-8 Remain Hybrid
  - Students with Individual Education Plans attend 4 days a week – October 14
  - Evaluate again in about one month
- Remote Learners May Continue to Return to Classroom with Notice
- Continue to Monitor Health Metrics
  - Return all to hybrid or move to distance learning if needed



# Implications

- More Contact Time with Teachers
  - K-4 students and MMS students with special education needs
  - Need to maintain use of some distance learning platforms even when in school to ensure ease moving back to distance learning
- Family Impact
  - Multiple children across schools may now be on separate schedules
  - Wednesday afternoons may still require childcare arrangements
- Some Staffing Changes
  - Add a teacher in some grades
  - Return one teacher from the Remote Team to the classroom and replace with new teacher to Remote Team